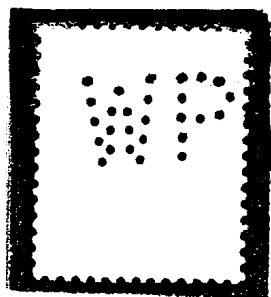


From MAGNUS WERNER comes this added information:-

The Catalogue ANCOPER: Perfins of France and Colonies lists a perfin WP (Cat No. WP 28) without stops. It was used in Paris 1927-1932. The name of the user is not known. In my collection I have this die on the 2 fr. 1920 Liberty and Peace issue as well as the 30c Sower (light blue), issued 1925. The catalogue gives this perfin the rarity factor 5 on a scale from 1 (common) to 8 (rare). In an article in The Perfins Bulletin (USA) of July/August 1992 by Stefan Czarniecki, which deals with the story of this perfin, the W.P. is mentioned with stops after each letter, as it is in the article by Crozier. Neither article includes a picture of the die. The Czarniecki article illustrates, in slightly reduced size, and face up, a 10c and a 20c Mercury stamp of 1938-42, supposedly with this die. The picture is too blurred to offer a clue.



The questions are:- Is there a "W.P." die?

Might the Polish War Chancery have come into the possession of the old "WP" perforator and used it during a short period in 1940?

If so, the date of use or the stamp issue would determine the scarcity of the perfin.

MEMBER'S COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

W.W.II Polish Army In Paris Perfin Bulletin 282/23; 285/8

A non-member, ROY E READER, has sent the following:-

"I have recently been shown a brief article that appeared in the Perfin Society's Bulletin No.285 of December 1996 concerning French stamps perforated with the letters 'WP'. The illustration of the 'WP' perforation [on next page] is as on stamps perforated at the Polish War Office in Paris in May and June 1940. I apologise for the quality of the printing.

"It will be seen that contrary to the impression given by Mr Czarniecki's article, there are no stops after the letters 'W' or 'P'. Having checked this perforation against the one in your Bulletin (285/8), it seems to me that they are the same.

"I think it would be quite remarkable if the officer that perforated the stamps at the Polish War Office had been able to acquire his perforating machine from whatever firm it was that had been perforating its stamps with the initials 'WP' from 1927 to 1932. I think it more likely that both the Polish officer and the firm with the 'WP' initials obtained their machines from the same manufacturer.

"The stamps in Mr Werner's possession are not amongst those perforated at the Polish War Office."

W W II POLISH ARMY IN PARIS PERFINs

Illustration of block of 1938 5c French definitives perforated 'WP'.

